

There's not much choice in the story about the recipient of the spanking: a good hiding for Captain Wrack can be ruled out as ludicrous, so it's got to be Tegan. And that's not totally straightforward because it's a very Turlough centered story. As always, if only Turlough were female! But undaunted I'm going to rearrange things so that Tegan not only gets spanked but gets spanked *twice*...

The first is mainly to lay down a marker for later events. It just takes a little rearrangement of the scene where the White Guardian is trying to get a message through to the Doctor: only in my version it's Tegan, not Turlough, who cuts off the power. The Doctor looks like thunder as she stammers that she was concerned for their safety. 'So, Tegan, you're saying that you know more about the TARDIS power-loss tolerances than I do,' he says, then takes her by the scruff of the neck and frogmarches her out of the console room, leaving behind a puzzled Turlough. Deep within the TARDIS, in some other room that is probably soundproofed for the purpose, Tegan is put across the Doctor's knee and soundly spanked with the back of a hairbrush. When they return to the console room, there's a hint of red about Tegan's eyes and she's obviously trying hard not to rub her sore bottom - and not quite succeeding.

So, the Doctor and Turlough go off exploring, leaving Tegan to find herself a large pillow and then to sit and wait for the White Guardian's call. She's then tempted out of the TARDIS by Mr Marriner, who identifies her as a stowaway and says 'I should put you in irons,' as on TV. 'Or,' he adds pointedly, 'over my knee.' Tegan is dumbstruck.

The story continues on its TV course. Tegan is escorted to her cabin and finds it an amalgam of her memories - including a certain hairbrush with which she has grown uncomfortably familiar... And as Mr Marriner follows her around, he lets drop some interesting references: 'Put on that spacesuit, Miss Tegan, before I spank you.' And later, when she says, 'You like giving people shocks,' he replies, 'As you like receiving them - sometimes.'

What he's latched onto in her mind is her latent romantic feelings for the Doctor - something she won't even admit to herself. (This is something fans speculated about at the time, IIRC.) In my version of the relationship it's bound up with her reaction to being spanked: in spite of herself she accepts the punishment (as you might not expect her to), and doesn't really understand why. Really it's because a spanking is a sign of affection - of sorts - from the Doctor. The spanking in the early scenes serves as a reminder of this side to her character. The Doctor showed a degree of sensitivity there in punishing her in private rather than in front of Turlough. For his purposes this is because Tegan's action was only well-meaning foolhardiness, so she doesn't deserve the humiliation of a public spanking. From Tegan's (unconscious) point of view, it keeps it a private matter between them, and avoids disrupting the balance of her feelings to the extent that Marriner might miss the latent positive aspect which spanking has for her.

So, on the subject of spanking Marriner understands Tegan better than she does herself, and he's exploiting this to insinuate contact between them. This is, of course, no less creepy than in the TV version:

it's a kind of inter-species sexual harrassment, so it's not really desirable to have Tegan receive her second spanking at his hands, because the punishment wouldn't be unambiguously merited or administered with authority. But let's take her some of the way. When Marriner shows his callousness after Turlough falls overboard, Tegan openly rejects him. He has one chance to make her respond positively to him: to exploit the one peculiar personal weakness he has seen in her mind. The crunch comes after Striker has accepted the invitation to Wrack's party. On the way back to her cabin, they have a fight. The Doctor, who is still with Striker, overhears this and excuses himself. He gets there just in time to see Tegan being turned face-down over Marriner's knee, and to grab Marriner by the wrist before he has the chance to bring his hand down onto her upturned bottom. Tegan is duly grateful to her rescuer, and goes off to change into her party dress.

At the party, the Doctor makes a special point of warning Tegan to be on her guard with Captain Wrack, who is obviously the most dangerous of the Eternals, but, as we know, Tegan is careless, and they return to the Shadow with the focus crystal concealed in her tiara. For variety's sake, let's make her less keen to change out of her dress. Eventually the focus is discovered and disposed of, and then, back in Tegan's cabin, the Doctor makes a nettled remark about her failure to take proper care with the wily female buccaneer. Tegan is only human, of course, and she might have escaped with a good talking-to, but she can't stop herself rising to it. She starts to argue with the Doctor, and finds herself in the usual time-honored position. Dress and petticoats are raised to reveal period silk stockings and lace tap pants (she's dressed up for a party, so let's give her a change from her everyday panties). After rescuing her from a spanking, the Doctor now gives her one. After this, Tegan's feelings are if anything even more confused!